

My name is Juan Saenz and I am a teacher in Bridgeport Public School District. I am writing today to show my support of fully funding education by expediting the ECS phase to coincide with the federal dollars running out. I have experienced firsthand the impact a lack of funding can have on students in high needs districts.

My students do not have adequate access to learning resources for in and out of the classroom learning experiences. As a school which serves a large population of different learning populations and needs, we are severely understaffed and students end up paying the ultimate price as all needs are not adequately served.

Fully funded education would empower my students to reach and surpass their goals by gaining access to an equitable education. Fully funded education would ensure we are putting the needs of every student at the forefront, and working to close the opportunity gap our students experience.

Funding inequities across Connecticut are putting our most vulnerable students at risk, and the state needs to do everything in its power to put an end to these inequities. That is why I am urging our state leaders to fully fund education throughout Connecticut.

We cannot afford to wait any longer.

Thank you for your time,
Juan